for modernisation and development of postsl network will be undertaken, and if so, when and how?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (c) Coordination between financial outlay and physical targets is normally done at the beginning of a 5 year Plan or of an Annual Plan. Lack of coordination between financial outlay and physical target can be attributed to the following reasons:—

(i) Cost escalation subsequent to setting up the targets leading to scaling down the physical targets in accordance with the availability of resources.

(ii) Delays in development of products/ schemes largely by outside agencies leading to non-achievement of both physical and financial targets.

(iii) Delays in obtaining approvals from various authorities competent to give such approvals within a timeframe.

In order to ensure better coordination through effective monitoring and focussed management, a separate Divsion for Corporate Planning & Technology has been set up at the headquarters. This has resulted in achievement of both physical and financial targets during 1995-96, especially relating to modernisation of postal services. While strategy for modernisation of the postal system has been evolved, it is necessary to implement the strategy through Annual Plans in view of the rapid obsolescence of technology in a longer time-frame.

Sale of Paraffin Wax-III

1672. SHRIMATI RANUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether sale of Paraffin Wax, Type III produced by Small Scale Industries all over India is exempted from the provisions of Paraffin Control Order, 1972;

(b) if so, how come the Delhi State Government is still controlling the sale of Paraffin Wax Type III under the above provisions and forcing the Small Scale Industries to obtain Dealership licence under the above Act and further forcing them to sell the paraffin Wax Type-III at an abnormally low price causing substantial loss to the units; and

(c) what action Government have taken in this regard to give relief to the Small Scale Industries in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The Paraffin Wax (Supply, Distribution and Price Fixation) Order, 1972 is still in force.

**Written answers to Starred and Unstarred Questions set for 11th August 1995*

Membership Allotted by the India Habitat Centre

*161. SHRI MD. SALIM: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many membership have been allotted by the India Habitat Centre till June 1995;

(b) what criteria was laid down in allotting the membership and the details of the criteria;

(c) the reasons and the criteria for rejecting the applications of those who had applied and what the institution intend to do with that;

(d) when would the Centre be ready for use by its members; and

(e) whether there is any plan to increase its membership in the near future; if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT(SMT. SHEELA KAUL): (a) to (e) India Habitat Centre is registered as a society under the Societies Registration Act and is an autonomous organisation which is not in receipt of public funds or grants. The Centre has been set up with the objective of developing an integrated physical environment in which various professionals and institutions dealing with different facets of Habitat and Habitat related

* The sitting of the Rajya Sabha on Friday, the 11th August, 1995 was cancelled. Answers to Questions put down in the lists for that day were laid on the Table of the House on Wednesday, the 16th August, 1995.

environmental issues would function, interact and endeavour to resolve habitat related problems in a coordinated manner. The Centre is managed by a Governing Council drawn up from among its members. Membership is decided by a committee drawn from the Governing Council based on the criteria referred to above.

Status of the Chairman of NMFDC

*162. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the status of the Chairman of National Minorities Financial Development Corporation; and

(b) the achievements of the Corporation under his leadership, so far?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): The Chairman of NMFDC is one of the Directors on the Board of Directors. Therefore, he has the same status as that of any Director. But, as Chairman, he presides over the meetings of the Board of Directors.

(b) A statement on the performance of the Corporation is annexed.

Statement

Government has set up a National Minorities Development & Finance Corpn (NMDFC) with an authorised share capital of Rs. 500 crores which was registered on 30.9.94 under section 25 of the Companies Act, 1956. Shri Mohd. Hidayatullah Khan, former Speaker of Bihar Legislative Assambly and former Cabinet Minister Govt. of Bihar has been appointed as Chairman of NMDFC on 2.1.1995.

The Govt. of India's contribution to the equity of NMDFC would be restricted to 25% of the paid up share capital and balance share holding will be acquired by the State Govts/ Corporations and other institutions individuals having interest in the development of minorities.

In order to give a head start to the Corporation the Ministry of Welfare released Rs. 50 crores to the Corporation during 1994-95. An amount of Rs. 39 crores has been allocated for the current year.

As far the State Govts., only the state of Uttar Pradesh has provided Rs. 6.95 crores towards the equity of NMDFC, through it's Corporation. The Govt. of Kerala has sanctioned Rs. 1 crore as contribution towards the share capital of NMDFC. The States of Bihar and Andhra Pradesh have informed that they would be contributing Rs. 5 crore and Rs. 1 crore respectively, towards the share capital. The States of Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh have also agreed in principle to contribute towards the equity of NMDFC.

Guidelines have been issued to States/ UT Admns. for submission of proposals for obtaining loans from NMDFC through the State Minorities Finance Corpns./Channelising Agencies. For this purpose, all States/UTs were requested to nominate channelising agencies. All the State/UT Admns. except the six states of Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Meghalaya, Orissa, Sikkim and West Bengal have nominated channelising agencies.

By 1st August, 1995 the NMDFC had sanctioned loan amount to Rs. 67.40 crores with NMDFC's share of Rs. 44.18 crores to the State of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Chandigarh, Tripura and Bihar. An amount of Rs. 31.02 crores has been released so far. This will help in establishing 15,129 units covering 16,251 beneficiaries.

Maintaining Lawns in Front of Government Quarters

*163. DR. RANBIR SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether CPWD (Horticulture) is expected to maintain the growing and cutting of grass in lawns in front of the quarters in Government colonies, at regular intervals;

(b) whether CPWD (Horticulture) is also expected to grow hedges in front of the quarters and in the lawns and to trim them on regular intervals;

(c) if so, whether the CPWD (Horticulture) is performing this duty to the satisfcation of